

AN ORDINANCE



06-○-1935

BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLA SMITH

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HER  
DESIGNEE TO RENAME THE SOUTH  
ATLANTA PARK TO LUCIUS D.  
SIMON SR. MEMORIAL PARK; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the South Atlanta Civic League has requested that the council member of District 1 assist them in honoring Lucius D. Simon, Sr. by renaming The South Atlanta Park after him; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Simon was a dedicated leader in this community for some 70 years and was a very powerful civic leader and the organizer of the South Atlanta Civic League in 1953; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Simon was instrumental in getting streets in the community paved, as well as gas and electrical service, he served on the Citizens Review Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the South Atlanta Civic League, the family of Lucius D. Simon, Sr. and NPU-Y are in favor of this name change taking place; and

**WHEREAS**, the South Atlanta community feels that this is a fitting tribute to his tireless efforts for the betterment of the citizens of South Atlanta

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA** as follows:

**SECTION 1** That the Mayor or her designee is hereby authorized to rename the South Atlanta Park to the Lucius D. Simon, Sr. Memorial Park.

**SECTION 2** This name change shall be effective upon approval by the Mayor.

**SECTION 3** The appropriate City agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs are hereby authorized to take such steps as necessary to comply with having the signage displayed in the referenced area changed.

**SECTION 4:** That all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be hereby repealed.

**THE SOUTH ATLANTA CIVIC LEAGUE****SERVING THE COMMUNITY: SOUTH ATLANTA***"Where the good of the many outweighs the desires of the few"*

P. O. BOX 150726

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30315

Nellie Gwynn-Springs, President 404/523-4382 / fax same

Email: njsprings@bellsouth.net

August 21, 2006

Honorable Councilmember Carla Smith, District 1  
55 Trinity Street  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30335

Dear Councilmember,

On behalf of the South Atlanta Civic League, the family of Lucious D. Simon Sr., the community South Atlanta and the NPU-Y area, I am requesting the name change of the South Atlanta Park to The Lucious D. Simon Sr. Memorial Park. The South Atlanta Park is located on Gammon Avenue SE next to the recently renovated "New Schools at Carver".

The SACL and the community will host its reunion on Saturday, September 23, 2006. At this time, we would like to have the renaming ceremony as the key part of the activities. The community has embarked on Fundraising activities to place a marker in the park at a later time. We are asking that this request be recognized and passed, via your leadership, by the Atlanta City Council.

Thank you for all you do in the communities.

On behalf of the South Atlanta Civic League,  
I Am



Nellie Gwynn-Springs  
President, SACL

**NPU Y**

1411 Eric Street  
Atlanta, GA 30315

**RE: Renaming South Atlanta Park to Lucious D. Simon Park**

Dear Sir:

On Monday, July 17, 2006, NPU Y meet at the John Birdine Center starting at 7:00PM. At the request of the South Atlanta community, NPU Y unanimously voted to support the the renaming of South Atlanta Park to the Lucious D. Simon Park.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime if any more information is needed from me on this subject.

Sincerely,

*Paul C. McMurray*

Paul C. McMurray, NPU Y Chairperson

H: 404-627-8271/pcm5@comcast.net

W: 404-639-7244/pzm5@cdc.gov

Cell: 404-993-2293

## OBITUARIES

## ATLANTA

# L.D. Simon, 86, civic league founder, activist

By KAY POWELL  
kpowell@ajc.com

L.D. Simon could get judges elected and streets paved.

A south Atlanta resident since 1932, Mr. Simon organized the South Atlanta Civic League in 1953 and was its president for the next 41 years.

"It was a powerful civic league," said Charles Carnes of Atlanta, senior judge of the State Court of Fulton County. "I've told many people I wouldn't be judge today if it weren't for L.D. Simon."

"He not only had influence in getting folks elected, he had influence at City Hall," said the judge.

The funeral for Lucius Douglas Simon Sr., 86, of Atlanta is noon today at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church on Meldon Avenue. He died of complications from Alzheimer's disease Tuesday at Ashton Woods Rehabilitation Center. Goolsby Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

South Atlanta, a neighborhood of Victorian cottages and infill houses just north of Lakewood Fairgrounds, once was the city's elite black neighborhood. Its roots extend to the 1880s when the school that became Clark Atlanta University bought about 400 acres there. Gammon Theological Seminary was nearby.

The neighbors were highly educated and down-to-earth people, said Addie Hathaway of Atlanta, Mr. Simon's daughter.

Mr. Simon, who moved to south Atlanta from Eatonton as a child and had lived in the same house since 1940, helped get south Atlanta streets



L.D. Simon receives a community service award from the city of Atlanta in 1986. He also was honored by the King Center in 1988 for work in his south Atlanta neighborhood. Family photo

paved and gas and electrical service, she said. He wanted to keep his neighborhood vibrant.

When the area was threatened with expansive public housing, residents formed the civic league to fight it successfully, she said. The league then moved into voter registration, effecting peaceful integration and political activism in endorsing candidates.

Mr. Simon, a Pitney Bowes clerk until his 1981 retirement, had residents calling others in the neighborhood telling them which candidate to vote for. He also sent out cards endorsing candidates, said Judge Carnes.

"I got 99 percent of the vote in his community. No one who ran for anything

involving his district didn't go to him. He could get you other leaders' support because they trusted him," the judge said.

He relaxed by playing checkers with his buddies at Webb's Barber Shop on Jonesboro Road, said his daughter.

In the wider community, he was honored by many organizations for his neighborhood activism, for helping Atlanta to integrate and for his service on the Citizens Review Board to investigate police abuse.

Survivors include his wife, Hattie E. Simon; another daughter, Carolyn Parker of Lithonia; two sons, Lucius Douglas Simon Jr. and Edward L. Simon, both of Atlanta; 14 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.